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CUBAN EXILES GET ARTIME ASSURANCE

He Says New Thrust Against Castro Is In The Making

Miami, Fla., March 18 (UPI) — Manuel Artime, Bay of Pigs invasion leader, assured Cuban exiles today that another thrust against the Fidel Castro regime is in the making.

"It will be a long, hard war," said Artime, who reportedly has had men training somewhere in Central America for many months.

Addressing the Association for Cuban Economic Recovery, an organization of prominent exiles, Artime added: "We have a definite strategy, but it cannot be publicized yet."

Artime made it clear that plans do not call for another invasion of the type of the 1961 Bay of Pigs disaster.

"We Shall Continue"

"We'd like to have a big navy and a powerful army for a short war," the 32-year-old physician-turned-revolutionary said. "We do not have the means for this kind of war. But we have some means, and we shall continue."

Artime said his organization, the Revolutionary Recovery Movement, is sending arms to anti-Castroites in Cuba, "but not as many as needed."

He explained: "We do not have enough boats. In one night, we can make two trips but not more, but we are doing it. We will fill the island with enough arms to free our country from communism."

At one point, Artime said: "Our forces are south of the Rio Grande." He did not name the country where they are stationed. Artime said Fidel Castro has of the world's most powerful military forces, and added: "We cannot expect miracles."

"We Will Win"

He continued: "We will win with audacity, intelligence, morale."

Guerrilla warfare is in progress in Cuba, Artime said, but added: "It is hard to fight with guns if you don't have bullets." Farmers, he said, walk miles to take food to the guerrillas.

"The Castro regime is shooting about ten patriots daily against the firing wall," he added.

As to unity among the widely divided anti-Castro exile factions, Artime said: "The only way to unite us is in war, in sacrifice."

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